



Conservation Conversation

Spring 2018 - Volume 31, No. 1

Centre County Conservation District 2017 Annual Report

Inside this issue:

Page	
2-3	<i>Farm/City Dinner—Awards</i>
4-5	<i>2017 Annual Watershed Management Report</i>
5	<i>2017 Annual Education Report</i>
6	<i>2017 Annual E&S Report</i>
7	<i>2017 Annual DG&LVR Report</i>
8	<i>Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event</i>
9	<i>Poster Contest</i>
8-9	<i>New Staff</i>
10	<i>NMP Submission & Ag BMP Grants</i>
10	<i>Ag Inspections</i>

2017 was a busy and productive year as the Centre County Conservation District celebrated 63 years of service to the residents of Centre County. The Centre County Conservation District was formed at the request of farmers and other citizens in the county who were interested in land use planning and the conservation of soil and water resources. The District was declared a Conservation District by the Centre County Board of Commissioners in October 1954. The District was organized to provide for the conservation of soil and water resources, assist with watershed protection and flood prevention, preserve woodlands and wildlife, protect public lands, and to protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people within the community. The District is a subdivision of state government and is administered by a volunteer based Board of Directors. The District board is currently composed of four farmer directors, two public directors, one county commissioner, and four associate directors. In 2017, there were nine full-time employees. Some of the programs that the District staff administer include: The Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control; National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting; Chapter 105 Stream Encroachments; Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Roads; Chesapeake Bay; Nutrient Management; and Ag Conservation technical assistance programs.

The Conservation District also sponsors the County Envirothon. Monthly board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month in Room 146 of the Willowbank Building, Bellefonte, at 7:30PM, and are open to the public. Many thanks to those who support us and promote our mission.

Board Members (*from left*) Jim Walizer, Rob Shannon, Matt Ulmer, Lori Hartle, Allen Isher, and Tom Boldin

(*Not pictured Steve Dershem, County Commissioner & Kaleb Wolfe*)



Mission Statement

The Centre County Conservation District is a committed, professional agency functioning as the primary local source of assistance to all individuals and organizations who benefit from the county's natural resources that we collectively strive to sustain and improve.

FARM / CITY DINNER

In celebration of Pennsylvania Farm/City Week, the 2017 Centre County Farm/City Dinner was held on Monday, November 13, 2017, at the New Hope Lutheran Church in Spring Mills. The annual dinner highlights the importance of the relationship between our agricultural community and our urban neighbors. The dinner was sponsored by the Bellefonte FFA, Centre County Conservation District, Centre County Farm Bureau, Kiwanis Club of State College and Penn State Extension-Centre County.

Senator Elder Vogel Jr. was the guest speaker. Senator Vogel has represented the citizens of the 47th Senatorial District, which currently includes all of Lawrence County and parts of Beaver and Butler Counties, since 2009. Senator Vogel is Chairman of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee, and is a member of the Appropriations, Banking & Insurance, Communications & Technology, Environmental Resources & Energy, Labor & Industry and Majority Policy Committees. Senator Vogel serves on the Board of Directors for the Cooperative Extension of Beaver County, the Lawrence County Community Action Partnership; and is a member of the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce, the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce and the Butler County Chamber of Commerce, the National Rifle Association, the Beaver-Lawrence Farm Bureau, the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, the Rochester Sportsmen's Club, and the Big Knob Antique Tractor and Equipment Association. Senator Vogel and his family reside and operate the family farm in New Sewickley Township which was established in the late 1800s.

The 2017 Centre County Grange Fair Queen—Megan Royer served as the Master Of Ceremonies at the dinner. The State College Area High School graduate is the daughter of Robert and Karen Royer. Megan is attending Penn State, where she studies agriculture education and extension.



CLEAN STREAMS AWARD



Dave Veneziano (left), Boggs Township, receives Clean Stream Award for Excellence in Erosion Control from James Coslo, Centre County Conservation District Resource Conservation Supervisor.

The 2017 Clean Streams Award was presented to **David Veneziano**. In 2013, Dave was appointed a Supervisor at Boggs Township as well as serving as the Roadmaster. Dave is involved in all aspects of road maintenance such as equipment operation, project planning, and obtaining environmental permits. Many maintenance activities involve replacing and upgrading cross drain and stream crossing culverts. Dave works closely with Conservation District staff to ensure work across and along our streams is accomplished in a manner to protect our valuable resources. Dave was involved with flood mitigation work in Boggs Township, securing FEMA funding to repair road culverts damaged by the heavy rains that fell on Centre County in October 2016. Dave is also involved with projects for the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road, (DGLVR) program. He submitted several projects under the DGLVR program, with two projects approved for funding and construction scheduled for Spring 2018. We thank Dave for his service to his local community, for his diligence in protecting the residents of Boggs Township, and at the same time protecting the streams and waterways of our commonwealth.

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP AWARD

The 2017 Watershed Stewardship Award was presented to **Ann Donovan** at the annual Farm City Dinner. Ann has a BA from Chatham University and M. Ed. from Clarion University. She taught school children in the South Pacific, western PA and State College. Ann started her career with the CCCD as an Ameri-Corps volunteer in 1999. In 2001 she became CCCD's first Watershed Specialist. Ann retired from the Conservation District in August. Ann worked tirelessly over her career assisting watershed groups, coordinating stream restoration projects, assisting private landowners, municipal officials, elected officials and others. Ann's passion for education helped the Conservation District reach thousands of children and adults as she taught lessons to groups about watershed stewardship, and soil and water conservation. Ann also assisted with both the Centre County and the PA Envirothon programs.



Ann Donovan (right), receives Watershed Stewardship Award from Robert Sweitzer, Centre County Conservation District Manager.

OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION FARMER AWARD



Sam Gray (right), Grayhurst Farm, receives Conservation Farmer Award from John Wataha, Centre County Conservation District Agriculture Conservation/Nutrient Management Technician.

The 2017 Outstanding Conservation Farmer Award was presented to **Sam Gray**, Owner/Operator of Grayhurst Farm. Grayhurst Farm is located in Halfmoon Township. The project objective was to address the runoff from feeding areas impacting Halfmoon Creek. Halfmoon Creek runs through Gray's farming operation. Partnering on the project was Centre County Conservation District, Clearwater Conservancy, US Fish & Wildlife Service and PA Dept. of Environmental Protection. A plan was developed and implemented that included best management practices, controlled stream access with off-stream watering system, riparian restoration, construction of manure stacking facility heavy use area protection, and planting stream buffers. Programs contributing to the success of this project were Growing Greener-Watershed Protection, Commonwealth Finance Authority-Watershed Restoration & Protection, Department of Environmental Protection-Streambank Fencing, and National Fish & Wildlife Foundation -Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Program.

2017 Annual Report - Watershed Management

In 2017, the Centre County Conservation District assisted local environmental organizations with projects that promoted their goals and objectives and carried out watershed improvement projects of our own.



*CC Pa SEC -
Water Quality Sampling*

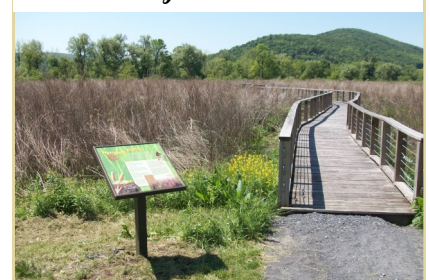
During the year, two monitoring groups continued to collect water samples and report on the status of our streams. Members of the Centre County Chapter of the Senior Environment Corps (CC Pa SEC) at ClearWater Conservancy have monitored county waterways since 2002, making monthly visits to sites throughout the county to conduct field measurements. Two of the teams sample sites in the Marcellus Shale territory in the Beech Creek and Snow Shoe areas. These samples are taken to Lock Haven University to be analyzed under the direction of Professor Khalequzzaman. PASEC partnered with PSU to provide students with monitoring opportunities on Buffalo Run, Halfmoon Creek and at Big Run in the Beech Creek watershed.

The Spring Creek Watershed Monitoring Project has been collecting data from Spring Creek and its tributaries since 1997. The project, sponsored by the Spring Creek Watershed Association, employs a full time coordinator who is housed at ClearWater Conservancy. Information about these groups may be found on the web at www.ccpasec.org (CCPASEC) and www.springcreekwatershed.org/water-resources-monitoring-project-wrmp.html (Spring Creek WRMP).

The Bald Eagle Watershed Association built a third canoe/kayak access on the Bald Eagle Creek this year with funds from Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. The first access (2015), is at the bridge in Milesburg, the second access is located at the bridge in Curtin (2016), while the latest (2017) access was installed at Dowdy Hole in Howard. Members of the Canoe Club of Centre County and Boggs Township staff installed the access and repaired the parking lot. The Bald Eagle Area School District, with funding from Domtar Paper Company, is working on a Forest Stewardship Plan with the Nature Conservancy that will address 400 acres of BEASD woods. The Bald Eagle Watershed Association's website address is <http://baldeaglewatershed.com/>.

The Penns Valley Conservation Association continues to evolve and remains highly motivated. Jim Flanagan continues to serve as Education Coordinator, bringing quality environmental education to Penns Valley students at Muddy Paws and other places throughout the Valley. PVCA projects included the implementation, some in partnership with the CCCD, of agricultural BMPs, streambank fencing and riparian buffer planting. The Early Successional Riparian Forest project is a current focus. For more information about PVCA visit their web site at: www.pvca.net.

Muddy Paws Marsh



The Spring Creek Watershed Association has continued the Atlas project, a multi-media venture that will educate the public about the Spring Creek watershed, providing critical information that will assist in making future decisions. The group continued to learn each month from guest speakers about local environmental issues. Information about this group may be found at www.springcreekwatershed.org.

The Spring Creek Watershed Commission, made up of representatives from municipalities within the watershed, continued to meet monthly in 2017, featuring a speaker from the community at each meeting. Further information about the group may be found on their web site, www.scwatershed.com.

The Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited sponsored restoration projects in Spring Creek and its tributaries. They host a fishing program for veterans and sponsor Trout in the Classroom projects in local schools. In 2017, the group received a grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to complete three additional stream improvement projects in the watershed. You may learn more about their activities at www.springcreektu.org.

The District worked with National Trout Unlimited and the US Youth Fly Fishing team to install structures on Thompson Run and the Romolo Branch of Marsh Creek. CCCD assisted with the educational activities for the students working on the projects.

CCCD continued to work with the West Branch Susquehanna River Watershed Coalition to address acid mine drainage in the Beech Creek and Moshannon Creek watersheds through the exchange of information and educational initiatives. Their web site address is www.wbsrc.org.

The District supported the activities of Clearwater Conservancy by serving on various ClearWater committees and by working with them on agriculture projects in the Spring and Spruce Creek watersheds. The District participated in the annual Clean Up Day, held in April. For information about the work carried out by ClearWater Conservancy go to www.clearwaterconservancy.org.

CCCD coordinated a Day of Caring site in 2017. Volunteers from Bald Eagle Area School District and the Canoe Club of Centre County planted a buffer at Sunnyside on Spring Creek.

The District has continued its partnership with Bellefonte Borough and the Talleyrand Park committee in 2017 and beyond. Another mudsill installation at Talleyrand Park (River Right), originally scheduled for completion in 2017, will commence in the summer of 2018. Funding will be provided through a DCNR grant obtained by Bellefonte Borough.

The District participated in three garden projects this year. We continued to support volunteers in tending the Edible Landscape Garden in Talleyrand Park and we assisted with preliminary plans to create a Pollinator Garden with the PSU Master Gardeners in the Park.

Talleyrand Edible Garden



2017 Annual Report - Education

In 2017 the Centre County Conservation District (CCCD) offered watershed education to fifth and sixth grade students in the State College and the Bellefonte Area School Districts. The District visited the schools with the Enviroscope, a hands-on watershed model, to teach about non-point source pollution. The District participated in field days at the Bald Eagle State Park and educated over 500 students from Clearfield and Centre Counties to the fifth annual Clean Water Days event at Black Moshannon State Park. The District coordinated a Day of Caring site along Spring Creek with Bald Eagle Area School District students and the Canoe Club of Centre County. CCCD assisted the Penns Valley Conservation Association by teaching stream studies at the Muddy Paws Marsh, in Spring Mills.

Bald Eagle State Park-Field Day



In addition to activities with elementary school age students, the District presented guest lectures in several Penn State classrooms and participated in other environmental events at the University. We also served on the PA Water Resources Center grant review committee at Penn State.

The District sponsored the county Envirothon in May at Bald Eagle State Park and staff members volunteered at the Pennsylvania Envirothon.

District Staff attended environmental education workshops and conferences focusing on Climate Change, Nutrient Trading, Acid Mine Drainage, and stream protection. The District provided presentations for the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

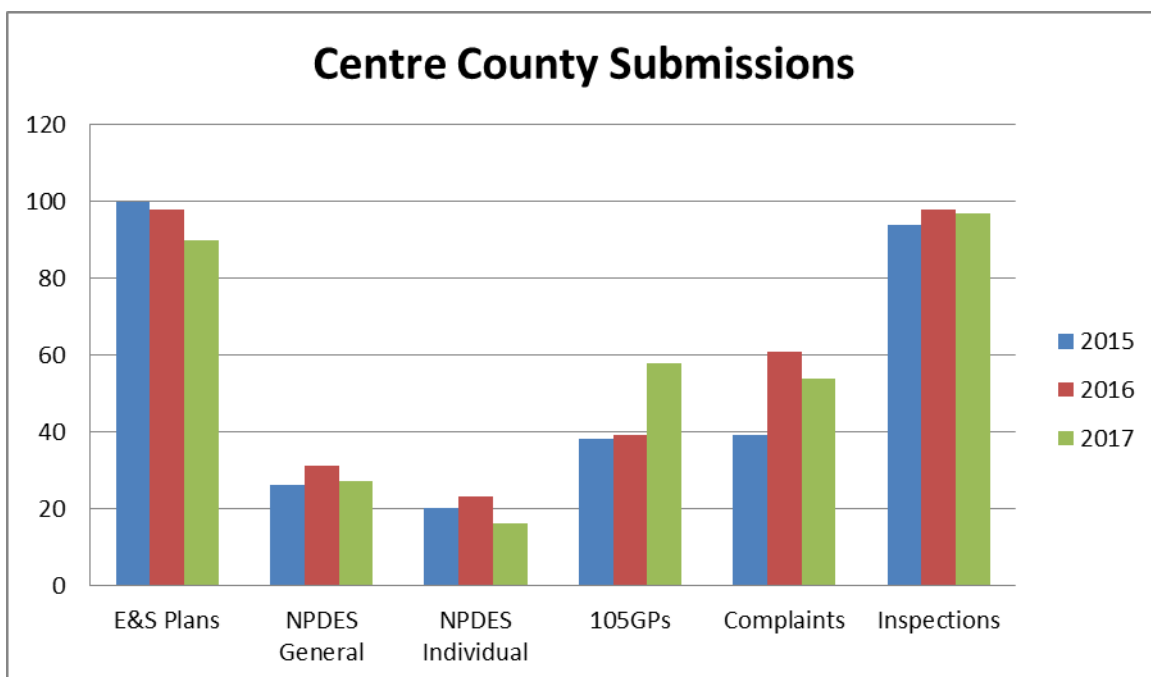
CCCD provided environmental outreach activities at the Grange Fair and supported PACD during Ag Progress Days. The District has been involved with the PSU sponsored Natural Resources Leadership Institute and the Spring Creek Watershed Association Atlas Project.

Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program Update

The Centre County Conservation District administers the Chapter 102, Erosion and Sediment Control Program on behalf of the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Similarly, the Conservation District also administers the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Permitting program, and the Chapter 105 Dam Safety and Waterway Management program for stream encroachment permits. For 2017, DEP re-issued the PAG-02 General NPDES permit for construction activities on December 8, 2017, for a two year period. DEP expects to propose revisions to the PAG-02 sometime during the two-year permit term. Such revisions will include notice and a public participation process. There weren't any major program changes in 2017, but DEP has revised several of the forms. The Notice of Intent (NOI) form was revised in December, and the Notice of Termination (NOT) documents were updated several times in 2017 and early 2018. It should be noted that permit forms have been changing frequently in recent years. Always be sure to check the DEP and Conservation District websites to make sure that you are using the most current form(s) when preparing a permit application.

New Chapter 105 General Permit forms are now available, and will be required to be used, as of March 26, 2018. The Chapter 105 General Permit Registration form has been revised, as have the instructions, the Aquatic Resource Impact Table, and the PASPGP-5 checklist have all been revised in an attempt to simplify the permit review process.

In Centre County, the number of E&S plan submission is down very slightly from 2016, as are the number of NPDES permit applications. The number of Chapter 105 General Permit submissions increased substantially in 2017.



DIRT, GRAVEL AND LOW-VOLUME ROADS SUMMARY

2017 was the 20th year for the Dirt, Gravel and Low-Volume Road Program (DGLVR). Through the program Centre County has awarded over \$900,000 in funding for Dirt & Gravel Roads and over \$140,000 for Low-Volume Roads. Public-road owning entities (municipalities or other state or local public entities) may apply for grant monies; funding eligibility requires at least one individual who is responsible for project design and oversight to attend a two-day Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance for Dirt, Gravel and Low-Volume Roads (ESM) training. ESM trainings are held throughout the state and are offered at no-cost to public-road owning entities.

In 2017, the District's Quality Assurance Board (QAB) visited seven (7) sites from four (4) applicants – Boggs Township, Potter Township, Penn Township and Walker Township. The QAB recommended funding and the District's Board of Directors approved funding totaling over **\$129,000** towards the following applications:

Low-Volume Road projects:

Curtin Narrows Road, Boggs Township – Install new cross-pipe with headwall and endwall, improve rip-rap apron at cross-pipe endwall and stabilize, seed and mulch road side ditches. Overall project length 2700'.

Dirt & Gravel Road projects:

Blue Ball Road, Walker Township – Install 4 new cross-pipes with headwalls, endwalls, rip-rap aprons and one inlet box.

Peace Road, Boggs Township – Place 1400' of Driving Surface Aggregate, stabilize, seed and mulch ditches.

Curtin Narrows Road, Boggs Township – Replace 2 cross-pipes and add headwalls/endwalls. Place 1090' of Driving Surface Aggregate. Stabilize, seed and mulch ditches.

Decker Valley Road, Potter Township – Place 1500' of Driving Surface Aggregate; extend three existing cross-pipes and install headwalls/endwalls. (completed)

Siglerville/Millheim Pike, Penn Township – Place 2200' of Driving Surface Aggregate. (completed)

Lingle Valley Road, Penn Township – Place 1176 tons Driving Surface Aggregate. (completed)



Are you part of a public-road owning entity desiring to be ESM trained and therefore eligible for DGLVR funds? Contact the District at (814) 355-6817 or check out the Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies website at: www.dirtandgravel.psu.edu to learn more.

The DGLVR program promotes responsible road maintenance practices for not only a better public road system, but a public road system with lower environmental impact on our streams. Oftentimes, an effort to better manage drainage both from the road surface and keeping offsite runoff from draining onto or across the road is key to minimizing road maintenance activities.

"Better Roads. . . Cleaner Streams"!

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT



Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event April 27-28

College Township - Here's your once a year chance to rid your home of old or unwanted hazardous chemicals and be sure they are properly disposed of.

Bring your insecticides, weed killers, pool chemicals, cleaners, poisons, corrosives, flammables, oil-based paints, CFL bulbs, fluorescent tubes and many other household hazardous chemicals to the Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority on Friday, April 27, (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM), and on Saturday, April 28, (8:00 AM – 2:00 PM).

We will **not** be accepting used motor oil, anti-freeze, batteries, latex paint, radioactive or medical material, explosives or ammunition. Please call our office if you have a question about your material.

For additional information about the event, call the Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority at 238-7005 or visit our website at www.centrecountyrecycles.org.



New This Year!

Help us fill local Little Free Libraries. Bring a new or gently used book to the collection with you & we will donate it to a local school to help them fill their Little Free Libraries.



- Why:** To safeguard children, pets & emergency responders & to protect our environment.
- When:** Friday, April 27, 2018, from 9AM to 5PM
Saturday, April 28, 2018, from 8AM to 2PM
- Where:** Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority
253 Transfer Road off Route 26
- What:** Insecticides, weed killers, pool chemicals, cleaners, poisons, corrosives, flammables, oil based paints, CFL bulbs, fluorescent tubes & most other hazardous chemicals from households only.

DO NOT BRING latex paint, used motor oil, antifreeze, medications and alkaline batteries.
Call with any questions. 814-238-7005

**The Centre
County
Conservation
District
Welcomes
2017
NEW
STAFF!!!**

WELCOME CHRIS MYERS! Chris is a Centre County resident via Cambria County, and has called Centre County home now for over 25 years. After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Forest Science from Penn State, he spent nearly twenty years in the realm of consulting forestry. Prior to joining the staff here at the Centre County Conservation District he most recently held the Resource Conservation Technician position in Blair County. His responsibilities at the District include administering the Dirt, Gravel and Low-Volume Road Program along with working within Centre County's delegated Chapter 102 and 105 program. In his spare time he enjoys central PA's vast hunting and fishing opportunities as well as traveling with his wife and their pooch.

WELCOME BRANDI MARKS! Brandi is the new Fiscal Technician at the Conservation District. She also serves as the Board Secretary. Brandi is a Penns Valley native and attended Penn State University. She has brought her accounting and grant management experience to the district. Brandi will be participating in both the county and state Envirothon. Her previous experiences includes working for the public sector and for a statewide non-profit farming organization.

2018 CONSERVATION POSTER CONTEST

Your class/group/child is invited to participate in the annual conservation poster contest. This is your chance to help every student become active in today's pursuit for a sustainable environment – while being creative and having fun.

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the NACD Auxiliary are excited to be sponsoring the 2018 poster contest.

This year's theme is:



Forward entries to:

Centre County Conservation District
414 Holmes Street, Suite 4
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Connecting with NACD's 2018 education materials, the 2018 Poster Contest theme is "WATERSHEDS-Our Water, Our Home." The contest helps teach students about important conservation issues! The annual poster contest provides K-sixth grade students an opportunity to inspire, increase awareness, and encourage us to work together to protect our natural resources for present and future generations.

The Centre County Conservation District sponsors the annual poster contest at the *county* level. The divisions are: K-1, 2-3, and 4-6. All first, second, and third place winners will receive a certificate and cash prize, and posters will be displayed in the lobby of the Willowbank Building. First place winners will be sent to PACD for the *state* competition. State winners will be sent to the National Association of Conservation Districts ("NACD") for the *national* competition.

The deadline to submit posters to the Conservation District is Monday, May 14, 2018.

WELCOME JUSTIN KOZAK! On November 1, 2017, Justin filled Ann Donovan's position at the Centre County Conservation District (CCCD) as the Watershed Specialist. Justin has a Bachelor's degree from Penn State in Wildlife and Fisheries Science and earned a Master's degree in the School of Forest Resources, with an emphasis on Watershed Science. Prior to joining the CCCD, he spent six years serving as the Watershed Specialist at the Mifflin County Conservation District, and previously worked for the Pennsylvania State University (Centre for Watershed Stewardship, Entomology and Weed Ecology Depts.), PA Fish & Boat Commission, and interned with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Fairhope, AL. Justin grew up in Pittsburgh. When not playing sports, he could be found in a boat or in the woods enjoying the outdoors with his father and grandfather. Nowadays, Justin cherishes fatherhood, raising a young family and sharing with them his fascination with the natural world, particularly, aquatic ecology and anything you can observe from a mountain bike.

Centre County Conservation District Staff



Pictured front:

*Jim Coslo, Barb Ivicic, Bob Sweitzer,
Brandi Marks, Justin Kozak*

*Back: John Wataha, Chris Myers, Daina
Beckstrand, Mike Philippe*

Nutrient Management Plan Submission

Crop year 2018 will be coming to a close by the end of September. If your operation is regulated under Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management Program (ACT 38), this would include Concentration Animal Operations (CAOs) and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), and your plan does not currently reflect crop year 2019 you should have by now contacted your plan writer to ensure your plan is submitted to the Conservation District for review and approval before October 1, 2018.

Plans must be submitted and approved prior to the crop year it is to cover. If the plan is not approved before the crop year BEGINS (October 1, 2018), no manure applications are allowed to occur before plan approval. Any manure applications made during a crop year, when there is not an approved plan, are not in compliance with the law.

For example, your NMP is being written for crop years 2019, 2020, 2021. The actual calendar plan dates are October 1, 2018 thru September 30, 2021. In order for any manure planned for application after October 1, 2018, the NMP must be submitted to the Conservation District in sufficient time (at least 90 days prior to October 1 e.g. May 30 or earlier) for the plan to be approved by October 1, 2018 in order for you to spread manure according to your plan after October 1, 2018.

Volunteers can choose to "opt out" of having their plans updated if they incline to do so. However you are still required to develop and maintain a manure management plan.

All farming operations that land apply manure whether they generate the manure or import it from another operation need to develop and implement a written Manure Management Plan.

Agricultural Best Management Practices Implementation Grants

The Centre County Conservation District continues to partner with other organizations and utilize different sources of funding to construct Agricultural Best Management Practices on farms throughout Centre County. Best Management Practices were installed to help reduce nutrient and sediment runoff from impacting our local streams, groundwater and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay. In 2017 projects were completed in Walker, Halfmoon, Ferguson, Gregg and Penn Townships.

Late in 2017, the Department of Environmental Protection awarded the Centre County Conservation District a \$702,147 Growing Greener grant for the installation of Best Management Practices to help reduce pollution loads originating from 4 farms in Centre County. Two farms are located in Halfmoon township, one farm is located in Marion township and one farm is located in Liberty township.

Halfmoon Township –Halfmoon Creek Watershed



In 2017 construction was completed on a Roofed Heavy Use Area & Manure Stacking Facility in Halfmoon Township.

Other BMPs included Water Supply Pipeline, Watering Facilities, Access Lane, Roof Runoff Controls, Underground Outlets, Structure for Water Control & Fencing.



Conservation District Helps Farmers through Agricultural Inspections

Pennsylvania law requires agricultural operations that have livestock, or apply manure to their land, to have a written Manure Management Plan. Any landowner that disturbs the ground more than 5,000 square feet (~ 1/10 acre) must have a written Agricultural Erosion & Sediment Control Plan. The Centre County Conservation District has been tasked by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to assess 50 farms per year to verify compliance with planning regulations.

In order to assist farms with attaining compliance, **the Conservation District offers free plan development workshops in a different area of Centre County each year.** In March 2017, the Conservation District held a successful educational workshop in Millheim, to teach farmers how to write their own required farm plans. Forty-eight people attended the free workshop.

In addition, the Conservation District offered a Growing Greener Grant to interested farmers, to pay a private consultant to write the required farm plans. Using the grant funds, the Conservation District paid the private consultant for the plans needed by the individual operation. The farmer paid \$50 towards the cost of plan development. The grant was offered on a first-come-first-served basis. The District exhausted all the grant funds in December 2017. **With this \$89,250.00 grant, the Conservation District assisted 184 total farms in Centre County since June 2013.** 168 Manure Management Plans and 162 Ag Erosion & Sediment Control Plans were developed. The plans encompassed a total of 25,678 crop acres, 4,073 pasture acres, and included 10,912 Animal Equivalent Units. (1 Animal Equivalent Unit = 1,000 lbs. live animal weight.)



In October 2017, DEP announced the PA Agricultural Planning Reimbursement Program. **This current program offers reimbursement to farmers who pay private consultants to develop the required farm plans.** Anyone interested in this program may contact the Conservation District for more information. The program expires June 30, 2018.

With this combined assistance, the Centre County Conservation District is pleased to announce that all 50 farmers inspected in State Fiscal Year 2017-18 were able to obtain their required farm plans, maintaining compliance with Pennsylvania State Law. These plans will help reduce sediment and nutrient laden runoff from reaching Centre County streams. The Centre County Conservation District would like to thank farmers for doing their part to keep our groundwater and streams clean for generations to come.



Permit No. 41

A close-up photograph of a white lamb with its mouth open, surrounded by bright yellow daffodils. The lamb is looking directly at the camera, and its pink tongue is visible. The background is a soft-focus field of more daffodils and a stone wall under a cloudy sky.

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Dylan Conklin, Engineering Technician
Cindy Kerstetter, Program Assistant

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